GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2648
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2015
Manufacturing of Life Saving Drugs
Sanghamita Dr.(Smt.) Mamtaz

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that there is sufficient supply of some life saving drugs like Pethidine, Morphine and Magsulf which are quite cheap, if so, the measures being taken for regular production and supply of these drugs;

(b) whether it is true that pharmaceutical companies are not much interested in the production of these drugs due to less profitability; and

(c) whether the Government can insist Indian pharmaceutical companies to produce these medicines with some subsidy, if required?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)
(a): National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has not received any complaints regarding inadequate supply or shortage of pethidine, morphine or magnesium sulphate. Whenever any shortage of medicines is reported, NPPA takes remedial steps to ensure that medicines are made available in the affected area in the country. State Drugs Controllers are also advised to take appropriate steps that may be required.
(b) & (c): As per para21(2) of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order (DPCO) -2013, any manufacturer of scheduled formulation, intending to discontinue any scheduled formulation from the market shall issue a public notice and also intimate the Government in Form-IV of Schedule-II of DPCO,2013 in this regard at least six months prior to the intended date of discontinuation and the Government may, in public interest, direct the manufacturer of the scheduled formulation to continue with the required level of production or import for a period not exceeding one year, from the intended date of such discontinuation within a period of sixty days of receipt of such intimation.
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